2019 LiveWell Community Wellness Grants

*Douglas County Community Foundation*

# Project Name & Summary Section

### Grant writing tips:

*Before you begin:*

* Look at what was funded in the past on DCCF's web site [here](https://www.dccfoundation.org/recent-grants/).
* Log in early!
* Have a compelling need and clearly communicate it.
	+ Grant committee members compare each application's community need and end benefit to determine grant funding priorities.

*In general:*

* Answer all required questions succinctly.
	+ Just because 2,000 characters are available, does not mean 2,000 characters are necessary.
* Upload required PDF attachments early.
* Do not procrastinate.
	+ Applications submitted last-minute usually read like last-minute submissions.
* Plan time for someone else to review your application.
* Call or email Lori Trenholm, Director of Community Investments, at 785-843-8727 or loritrenholm@dccfoundation.org, for questions or application review and feedback.

**Project Name\***

Please be descriptive.

*Character Limit: 100*

Increasing Food Security and Access to Healthy Food for Douglas County Children and Youth

## Project Summary\*

Briefly summarize your project, including how you plan to use community foundation funds.

### Grant writing tips:

*Describe:*

* The problem or situation
* What you are going to do about it
* Who will benefit
* Results/end benefit
* Importance to the community

*Character Limit: 400*

Poverty, food insecurity, and access to healthy food are critical issues in Douglas County. This initiative, a focus area of the 2018-2023 Community Health Plan, will expand pantries in Douglas County schools, where children and families (especially those with transportation challenges) can access resources. Funds will be used for critical infrastructure such as refrigerators and shelving.

## Amount Requested

*Character Limit: 20*

$11,065

## Population Served

Please choose the one category that best describes the population that will benefit from this grant.

**Choices**

Children from birth to pre-kindergarten Children and youth in grades K-12 Families

Young adults 18-23 All adults

Older adults ages 66 and over General population--all ages Animal and/or plant populations

## Program Area

Please choose the one program area that best describes your project. If your project covers multiple program areas, choose the one that is closest to your organization's overall mission.

**Choices**

Arts and Culture Children and Youth

Community Development Education

Environment Health Housing

Human Services

## Geographic Area

Please choose the one geographic area that best describes the primary community this project will serve.

**Choices** Baldwin City Eudora Lawrence Lecompton

All of Douglas County

## Grant Number

Optional: Grant Number (*for your organization's internal use only.*)

*Character Limit: 100*

NA

# Community Goals and Outcomes

## Anticipated Outcomes\*

In what ways will this grant help the Douglas County community make progress toward the goals and anticipated outcomes listed i[n the 2015 Community Health Plan](https://www.dccfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/Community-Health-Plan-2015.pdf)?

*Character Limit: 1500*

This initiative will help with implementation of Planned Strategy 3 within the Community Health Plan: Strengthening the FuelGood Healthy Pantries Initiative to promote adoption of health-promoting policies and practices, including distribution of healthy foods and fresh food items, within Douglas County food pantries. Action items within that strategy include:

1. Helping pantries obtain needed equipment (freezers, refrigerators, grocery carts, wheeled carts, etc.)
2. Providing assistance to Lecompton food pantry to increase capacity for storing and distributing fresh food items
3. Providing assistance to rural food pantries to increase capacity for storing and distributing fresh food items
4. Growing school-based assistance programming (e.g., pantry sites, Back Snack)

This grant will also help with addressing goals laid out in the Douglas County Food System Plan, including supporting healthier food environments, supporting food assistance programs for families with children, and identifying gaps in emergency food assistance and pursuing needed change.

During focus groups, transportation emerged as a top barrier to accessing food assistance. This strategy will help address access to healthy food for some of our most vulnerable children and families.

# Project Budget

## Project Budget\*

Please download the Grant Budget Form from our website by clicking [HERE](https://www.dccfoundation.org/dccf-grant-budget-form-3/). Complete the form, save it as a PDF, and upload the file here. Once it is uploaded, please double check to make sure it displays as a **single page**.

### Grant writing tips:

* The Budget is important and not a last-minute detail.
* Think about the Grant Budget Form as the grant request in numerical form.
* Vague line items, such as "Labor is paid for," result in grant committee member questions.
	+ Be specific and list how much, by whom, etc.
* Revenue and expense totals should be equal.
* If other funding sources are participating, the total project budget should be included, not solely the grant budget amount requested from DCCF.

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

# Narrative Section

## Target Population\*

What population does this grant target, and how many people do you expect it to impact in one year? In future years?

*Character Limit: 1500*

This grant targets food insecure children, youth, and families in Douglas County.

There are an estimated 22,661 children in Douglas County. In Douglas County, 16.5% of households experience food insecurity; higher than Kansas’ rate (12.9%). Households with children have even higher rates of poverty and food insecurity.

In the public elementary schools in Lawrence in 2017-2018, rates of free and reduced lunch eligibility ranged from 9.3% to 66.2%, with an average rate of 45.3%. The average rates of free and reduced lunch eligibility in Baldwin City are 33.9%, in Eudora are 38.4%, and in Perry-Lecompton are 40.1%. The overall rate of children eligible for free or reduced lunch in Douglas County is 39%.

This grant will benefit children and youth in Grades K-12 and their families, providing them with a point of access for fresh food and healthy pantry items. If we estimate that the students eligible for free and reduced lunch (39%) are most likely to benefit from this food pantry initiative in schools, this would reach an estimated 8,838 children and youth (plus their families) in the first year and each year subsequent.

(Data Sources: Douglas County Healthier Together; US Census; Harvesters Map the Meal Gap 2018; County Health Rankings 2018; Kansas Action for Children’s 2018 KIDS COUNT; National Center for Education Statistics)

## Project Description\*

Please describe your project, including the who, what, when, where, and why.

*Character Limit: 4000*

The mission of LiveWell Douglas County is “leading a movement to build communities that support the health and well-being of all.” The coalition has been charged with leading the Access to Healthy Food/ Food Security and Healthy Built Environment areas of the 2018-2023 Community Health Improvement Plan.

The LiveWell Healthy Food for All Work Group brings community partners from different sectors together monthly to collaborate on community and systems change to improve access to healthy food for all people in Douglas County. Members and collaborators include:

* Community members
* USD 348 Baldwin City Public Schools
* Ballard Community Services
* City of Eudora
* Department of Children and Families
* Douglas County Food Policy Council
* Eudora School USD 491
* Harvesters
* Just Food
* K-State Research and Extension, K-State Research and Extension SNAP
* KU Center for Community Health and Development
* KU Health, Sport, and Exercise Sciences
* Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department, Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department WIC
* Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority Full Circle Youth Program
* Lecompton Mayor and Council Member
* LMH Health
* Lecompton United Methodist Church God’s Food Pantry
* USD 497 Lawrence Public Schools

These partners are focused on growing access to healthy food options for low-income populations within Douglas County. This project will help increase food access for children and youth in Douglas County through expanding school pantries.

The 2017 Community Health Assessment found food insecurity to be a critical issue facing Douglas County. Children in food-insecure homes are more likely to be hospitalized and more are likely to develop health conditions such as anemia, obesity, and asthma. Food insecurity impacts not only children’s physical health, but also developmental milestones and academic performance. Within Harvester’s service area (26 counties), 105,320 children are food insecure, or one in six children in our region.

With the help of this grant, we will address food insecurity among children by improving the availability of nutritious foods, including fruit, veggies, and dairy in school pantries. Additionally, we would remove barriers to families with transportation barriers accessing needing resources at the Ballard Community Center at Just Food.

This project will support infrastructure needs and costs for refrigeration, rolling carts, and insulated tote bags for families with transportation challenges. (Insulated tote bags help keep perishable items cold while en route home.)

A number of local schools identified refrigeration as their top need, and requested refrigerators with glass fronts (like the ones at grocery / convenience stores) so families can more easily view contents.

Local schools and pantries have identified the following needs:

* Baldwin City High School: refrigerator, tote bags
* Lecompton food pantry: refrigerator
* New York Elementary: refrigerator, tote bags
* Woodlawn Elementary: refrigerator, tote bags
* Hillcrest Elementary: refrigerator, tote bags
* Eudora Elementary: refrigerator, tote bags
* Ballard Community Center: Rolling carts for families who face transportation challenges, tote bags (25)
* Just Food: Rolling carts for families who face transportation challenges, tote bags (25)

Currently, Harvester’s and Just Food support existing school food pantries in the county, and they have the capacity to provide more fresh produce to increase vegetable and fruit consumption. Having refrigeration at pantry sites would help with making produce and other staples more regularly available to children and families. This will ultimately reduce barriers to children and families receiving the nutritional supports they need to thrive.

Additionally, transportation is a barrier for a number of our Douglas County community members. Having rolling carts for families who face transportation challenges would enable to them more easily transport their pantry items on the bus or when walking home.

## Evidence Base\*

What evidence can you provide that this project is likely to produce improvements in healthy eating and/or physical activity? For example, has this approach produced measurable change in in other communities?

*Character Limit: 1500*

A 2012 study by Snelling et al at the American University in Washington DC was highlighted in a National Office Program Evaluation Brief on “Understanding Feeding America Elementary School-Based Food Pantries” by Feeding America. This research noted increasing numbers of food banks are partnering with schools to operate school-based pantries, and that they “provide nutritious food to low-income families with school-age children.” Across various implementation models, school-based pantries were “well received by clients.”

School food pantries reduce barriers to children and families receiving needed food assistance, providing resources in an environment that families know, trust, and can easily access.

This report found that each type of school pantry model has strengths and weaknesses. There are benefits of a model where the school has a permanent space to store pantry items, and clients can choose their groceries, but a noted weakness was “schools must store food. Without refrigeration, it is a challenge for schools to offer perishable foods.”

Lastly, according to County Health Rankings & Roadmaps “What Works for Health,” there is evidence that food banks and pantries that use healthy food initiatives increase fruit and vegetable consumption, improve diet quality, and increase food security for clients more than traditional food banks and pantries.

## Results\*

What will be the results of your project? What is your plan for measuring these results?

### Grant writing tips:

* Be specific but not over-complicated about how you will measure success, gather data, and what results you expect to achieve.
* Bullet points are sufficient.
	+ If your request is funded, you will be asked to report actual results using this measurement plan.
* For hardware, software, furniture, supplies, and other types of one-time installations, don’t overthink your measurements.
	+ For example, if you are requesting new chairs, your measurement could be that chairs were purchased, installed, and used.

*Character Limit: 1500*

The school pantry initiative will:

* Provide five refrigerators for school-based pantries in Douglas County
* Provide fifty rolling carts for local pantries that serve families with transportation challenges in Douglas County
* Provide insulated tote bags to families utilizing pantries to obtain fresh produce and other perishable items
* Increase the amount of fresh fruits and vegetables and other fresh foods distributed
* Increase the total amount of food provided to students and their families in need of assistance

## Sustainability\*

How will results be sustained after grant funds are spent?

*Character Limit: 1500*

Once the needed equipment (refrigerators and shelving) is purchased and installed, it will sustain for many years to come. Just Food and Harvesters have an ongoing commitment to providing the needed food for distribution in these school-based pantries.

Once the rolling carts and insulated tote bags are purchased, they will be able to be used many times by families in need for years to come. If the rolling carts are as useful as anticipated for those facing transportation barriers, this initiative will be likely to expand.

## Organizational Commitment\*

What is the applicant organization's financial commitment to the project--now and in the future?

*Character Limit: 1500*

Just Food and Harvesters have made organizational commitments to supply the school-based pantries with needed pantry staples and fresh food on an ongoing basis.

Additionally, as the entity responsible for implementation of the food access area of the Community Health Plan, LiveWell Douglas County (now in its eleventh year) will continue to provide ongoing support as needed.

The schools and pantries listed in this application have requested the needed materials and will be responsible for implementation and maintenance.

## Other Funder Commitments\*

What other funders have been asked to support this project and what have their responses been?

### Grant writing tip:

* When applicable, the same funders should be listed here and included on the Grant Budget Form.

*Character Limit: 1500*

Just Food and Harvesters both have ongoing commitments from community supporters and other funders to provide food to Douglas County residents in need.

## Timeline\*

What is your timeline for achieving the grant's objectives?

*Character Limit: 1500*

By December 1, 2019: Place orders for needed pantry equipment

By January 1, 2020: Install and deliver new pantry equipment

By March 30, 2020: Complete follow-up with each pantry

By June 30, 2020: Gather data on food distributed; gather feedback for any needed adjustments

# Attachments

## Optional: Additional Supporting Information

### Grant writing tips:

*When relevant, the below document examples can be helpful:*

* Before picture(s)
* Quote(s) for equipment or repair requests
* Research-related articles directly related to your grant request
* Plan drawings
* Documents must be uploaded \*single\* PDF file.

*Character Limit: 500 | File Size Limit: 5 MB*

## Board and Officers List\*

Please provide a list of your organization's officers and board members, including occupations and contact information. Save the file as a PDF and upload it here.

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

## Current Year Operating Budget\*

Please provide your organization's current operating budget. Save the file as a PDF and upload it here.

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

## Financial Statements or IRS Form 990\*

Please provide your organization's most recently filed IRS Form 990 or audited financial statements. Save the file as a PDF and upload here.

For nonprofits with gross income less than $50,000 and not required to file a Form 990, please provide your last full year's financial statements. **A copy of the 990N postcard is not sufficient.**

*File Size Limit: 12 MB*